



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-1465 or (213) 974-1431

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore
Mrs. Maxine B. Russell

MINUTES OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montano called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montano
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank S. Bacio
Vito Cannella
John A. Hammargren
Carl E. Moore

Excused Absence

Maxine B. Russell

Other Present

Sherry Scates, Commission Staff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2006 MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Cannella and unanimously carried, the January 11, 2006 meeting minutes were approved with the following corrections:

Page 3, Pomona Branch Court, last sentence should read: "...~~there are still no color security cameras.~~ Commissioners noted that though there are color cameras outside the facility there are still no color camera/monitors inside the facility."

Page 3, Dubnoff Center/Valley, second sentence, delete:

“...LIC 500 on-site; ~~and no fingerprinting before hiring~~
no records on residents’...”

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Montano asked staff to determine when the cameras will be delivered to the Commissioners.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission’s Charitable Fund is \$1,037.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Sherry Scates, Commission Staff, shared to Commissioners pocket folders containing a year’s worth of various reporting forms used by Commissioners throughout the year.

CORRESPONDENCE

Copies of the various forms not available for review during Commissioner Russell’s recent inspection of that facility were received, by her request.

FACILITY/GROUP INSPECTION REPORTS

Family Solutions #11 - #36-2

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren inspected this facility on January 17, 2006 and no areas of concern were observed or reported. Commissioners noted this facility has greatly improved since their last inspection. The facility administrators voluntarily shut down for two months so entire facility could be refurbished. On reopening, they switched their clientele to girls only; 3 girls have straight “A” report cards and another girl has “A’s” and B’s”. They further noted that this facility is very clean, well maintained and has good programs in place. The facility staff has developed an excellent Needs and Services format. The facility administrator informed Commissioners that DCFS has inadequate staffing, rarely checks on residents and often gets waivers instead of physical visits. They have requested DCFS to relocate one resident with a drug problem because she is disruptive to other residents, but have yet to receive a response.

Ava Lyns Group Home/Casa Editha - #4-2

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella inspected this facility on January 12, 2006 and found no areas of concern observed or reported. Commissioners noted that considering the very difficult and demanding severely disabled clientele served, this facility over the years has been an outstanding example.

Hope House - #56-2

Vice Chair Stathatos inspected this facility on January 17, 2006 and found no areas of concern observed or reported. Vice Chair Stathatos noted that this facility has an active, involved auxiliary who are often on-site. They provide individual decorations for each resident room (that is beds, curtains, wall color and décor); the auxiliary raises money for extracurricular activities and needs.

Santa Monica County Courthouse

Commissioners Bacio and Moore visited this facility on January 12, 2006 and found that the lock-up was closed on 7/17/04; no inspection was conducted.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Montano distributed inspection assignments to Commissioners for the following week.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Corbett/Sherry Scates
Commission Services Staff